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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

UNIQUE TRAY CLOTHS, DOILYS, AFGHANS, &c.

By M. J. ASHTON.

SOME of the new five o'clock tea-cloths are of the finest linen, with only a hemstitched border; others have designs worked in one corner. A new table center has one breadth of White India silk scattered over with buttercups without stems, in Kensington stitch. It is finished with a broad hem and is hemstitched. An exquisite tea-cloth is embroidered with frouds of maiden-hair ferns; the napkins are worked in the same pattern.

Another tea cloth has a spray of wild roses embroidered across it corner-wise. The dozen napkins are each worked with a different flower.

The doilys are of linen cambric and are embroidered each with a flower to correspond with the month.

Carnation, for January; cyclamen, for February; anemone, for March; violets, for April; pansies, for May; roses, for June; sweet peas, for July; nasturtiums, for August; asters, for September;

it in two or three places in the center so to make it puff up a little; put this in the bottom of the box; now bind the other piece of glass for cover and make three bows (each has three loops and three ends); fasten one on each corner; take two of the corners to the box to form a hinge; crochet over a small brass ring with yellow silk and attach it to the corner bow, where the lid raises up to open the box with. The ribbon should be corn colored to match the silk used inside, and should be about one and one fourth inches wide, with a pearl edge.

ROPE PORTIERES.

An inexpensive portière can be made of rope. Select a good smooth piece; that which is sold for cotton clothes lines is often used. If you have the pole and rings already in place, cut the rope in lengths so they will reach from the rings to within a few inches of the floor; fringe out the lower end of each length six or eight inches and tie a knot above to keep it from untying; fasten each length into a ring. Some prefer them of two lengths, every other one shorter. If you have no pole and do not wish to buy one, get some one to put up a rustic pole, and use screw-eyes to fasten the rope in.

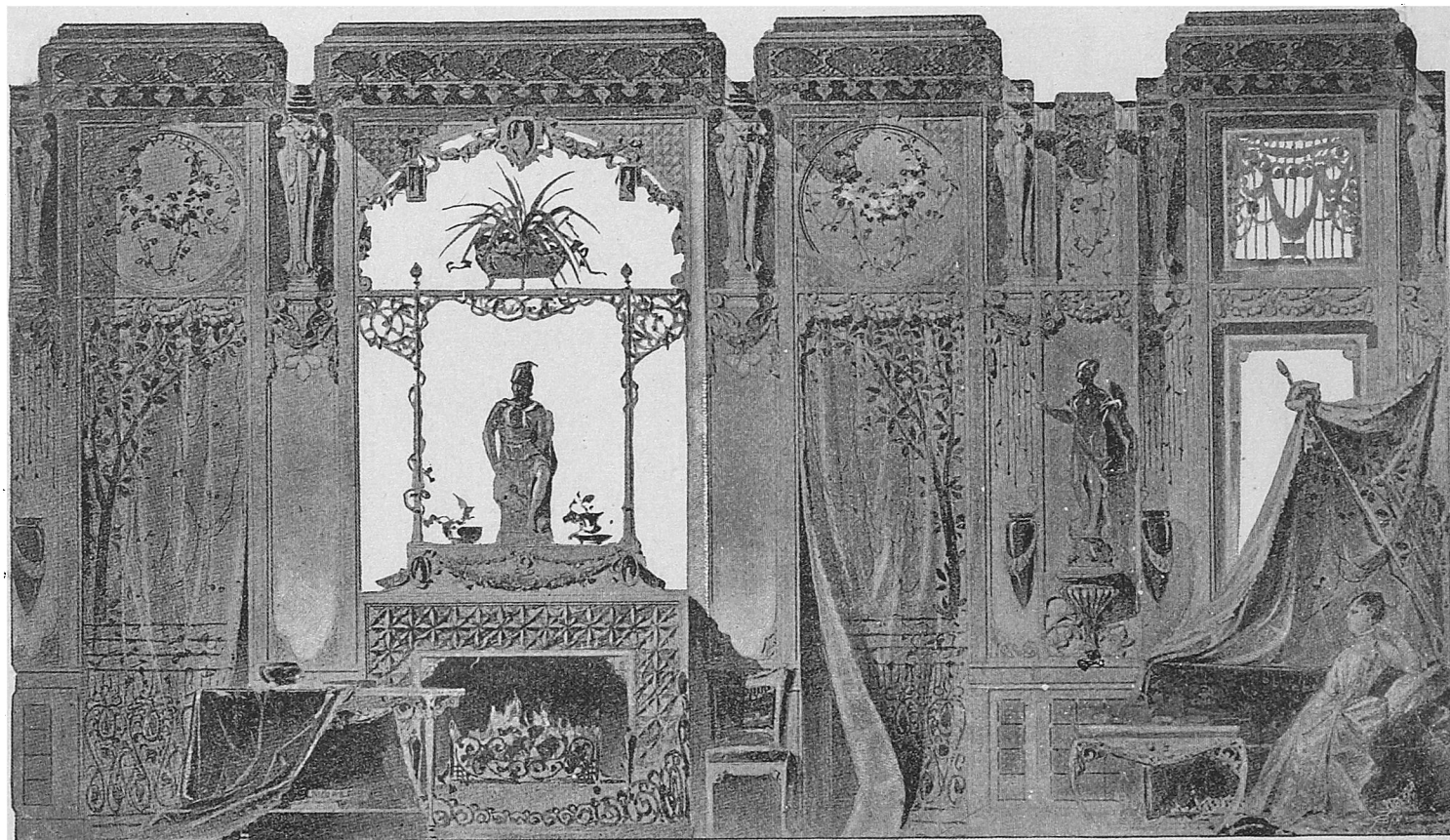


FIG. 22.—DECORATIVE CHART FOR SIDE OF DRAWING-ROOM NEXT LIBRARY.

ber; cosmos, for October; chrysanthemums, for November; holly, for December.

A very handsome fruit piece has corners of drawn work with sprays of apple blossoms;—the blossoms and leaves are in solid Kensington stitch. The apple blossoms are in pale pink and white, the leaves in olive green, and the stems in wood color.

Jewel cases in triangle shape are very unique. Get three strips of glass cut which will be seven and three fourth inches long and two and a half inches wide. Get two pieces cut triangle shape for top and bottom; which are eight inches long on the three sides.

It requires nearly three yards of ribbon to bind all the pieces of glass with on both edges and about two and a half for the three bows on each corner. Slip the edge of the glass into the ribbon and draw it closely; turn in the raw edge and overhand the ribbon on the corners. When the three side pieces and bottom are bound, fasten together by sewing the ribbon on the corner to each other; then cut a piece of white paper size of the bottom, then a piece of pasteboard the same size, and tack together, cover the pasteboard side with white wadding; then with corn colored moire silk, held a little full, fasten it neatly and catch

Wall-hangings can be made from matting which comes around tea chests. Fringe the lower end, after cutting it the desired size. Paint a simple design in water colors. A bamboo stick is suitable to mount it on. Suspend it with a cord, or a piece of rope fringed at the ends for tassels can be used in place of the cord. The China matting, which is used for floors when decorated, makes beautiful screens.

A unique baby blanket is made of white broadcloth embroidered in white silk, in conventional designs. It is lined with white surah and the edge finished in exquisite white ribbon. Three baby afghans seen recently were made of white eider-down flannel. The size was thirty-two inches by thirty-eight. One was lined with pink, another with light blue, and the third with lemon colored silk. A row of ribbon embroidery (done in narrow baby ribbon) to match the lining made a pretty finish about two inches from the edge; a large bow of broad satin ribbon to match the lining was placed near one corner.

A crocheted edge of knitting silk makes a handsome finish, when made of fine white cheese-cloth, tufted in midnight yarn and finished with a crocheted edge. They are very pretty and inexpensive. Any color can be used in the worsted.

Baby pillow covers are made of white, wash silk, hemstitched,

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

with four narrow tucks and finished with a pretty lace. Others are made of linen lawn, finished with thread lace.

A bureau scarf, a gift to a friend, is fringed on both sides and ends, has a row of drawn work on either end one inch from the fringe and a wider one through the center to draw a ribbon through. On each end are two rows of yellow pansies and leaves done in outline stitch half a yard deep. The ribbon matches the silk.

Spreads, to use on the white and gold bedsteads, are made of white net and lined with old gold satine.

Linen laundry bags are neatly bound and outlined in appropriate designs. One seen has the old motto, "Rub a Dub Dub, Three Maids at the Tub."

Pretty scarfs, to throw over picture frames, are painted in water-colors. One has on it a branch of apple blossoms; another wild roses; others have trailing arbutus, ox eyed daisies, pansies, violets, heliotrope and buttercups.

A home made umbrella-stand, made from a piece of drain pipe, is very pretty. One that is unglazed is best. Get a small can of prepared paint which sells for 25c; open it and stir well; as it is sometimes thin on top. A Vandyke brown is a good shade. After painting it one coat set it away where there is no dust until perfectly dry; then give it another coat. When the second coat is dry it is ready for decorating. Oil colors, which come in small tubes, are used. A design of grasses and ferns is very pretty. Buttercups and grasses are often used. After the decorations are dry give the whole two coats of varnish. A flower-pot saucer, large enough to fit the drain pipe, can be painted the same color and used for the bottom.

The newest stationery is very simple. A fashionable note-paper is of a light shade of gray, with lettering in a darker shade of gray at the top. Gray sealing wax is used to seal the letter. Among the new stationery is a pale blue paper with a design of small swallows in a deeper shade flitting over it. A white paper bordered with snowdrops, with the writer's initials copied from her own signature, in one corner, is in use.

SOME HOME-LIKE OFFICES.

BY A. G. LONDON.



It is hardly necessary, at this time, to enter a plea that physicians' offices should be home-like and cheerful. The day is past when these rooms were left formal and unfurnished; and the majority of offices we find now are made charmingly attractive by sunlight, flowers, pretty hangings, etc.

On a recent visit to a noted specialist's offices, I was so impressed by the artistic arrangement, the combination of the decorative with practical usefulness, that I was convinced so pleasing a result must have been born of a woman's efforts. A

loving interest in a husband's work was stamped visibly here. To the end of suggestions for other women, similarly interested in a husband's comfort and success, I offer a description of these offices:

There were given three rooms; two large oakwood doors led from the outside world into the first room. The name of the physician and the office hours were carved across these doors. Above them was a half circular transom in stained glass. The management of this showed good skill; so, distinctly, did the word "office;" and the number of the house, put in with plain opaque glass, stand out from the surrounding dark colors.

The entry room was small, about 9x12. The floor was handsomely inlaid and left bare, but for one foot-fall-stilling rug. And the room was devoid of furniture, only a massive, carved wood settee, with high back, and an umbrella stand of unique device standing beside it. The one window, low and long, was simply hung with thin white Madras cloth, so at night from without could be seen the light from a single gas jet, pendant in the center of the room, and hidden by a square glass shade of many colors.

Opposite the window were two broad doors which opened into the next room. These doors were works of art, showing

barely enough wood to frame the panels of stained glass, a blending of peacock blue and yellow as to color, the glass being protected by small rods of iron a foot apart. Over these doors, extending quite to the ceiling, was a stained glass transom, and, as one entered the reception-room proper, she was greeted pleasantly by a cheerful sumptuousness of color. There the light was not only intercepted and softened by the glass in the doors, but toward the south was a lovely stained glass window. It had much old pink of delicate shade, and was so simple, so exquisite in design that it reminded one of

a beautiful mosaic. After all there is nothing which adds so much to the artistic qualities of a room as a little carefully selected stained glass. There were small windows of ground glass on the other side of this room, below which were little window seats of oakwood.

This room was about 15x18. The floor was hard, light wood, almost concealed by a body Brussels rug, and the dull blues and yellows, in the Persian pattern, were exceedingly harmonious with the oakwood.

A wainscoting, oak paneled, extended to a height of three feet. The rest of the wall was covered by a Japanese paper of citron shade, with a stencil pattern of gold over it, making a most excellent background for the pictures. These were all framed alike in broad old oak frames, with bronze beading, and whoever selected and hung them proved himself a master of the art; for they were not only well grouped, but two hooks and two wires were used for each picture, which is much more artistic than making a triangle of the wire by the use of one hook only.

The mantel-piece was high and massive. The over-mantel was flat against the wall, made of small beveled glasses framed in the oakwood. The fire-place was surrounded by shaded

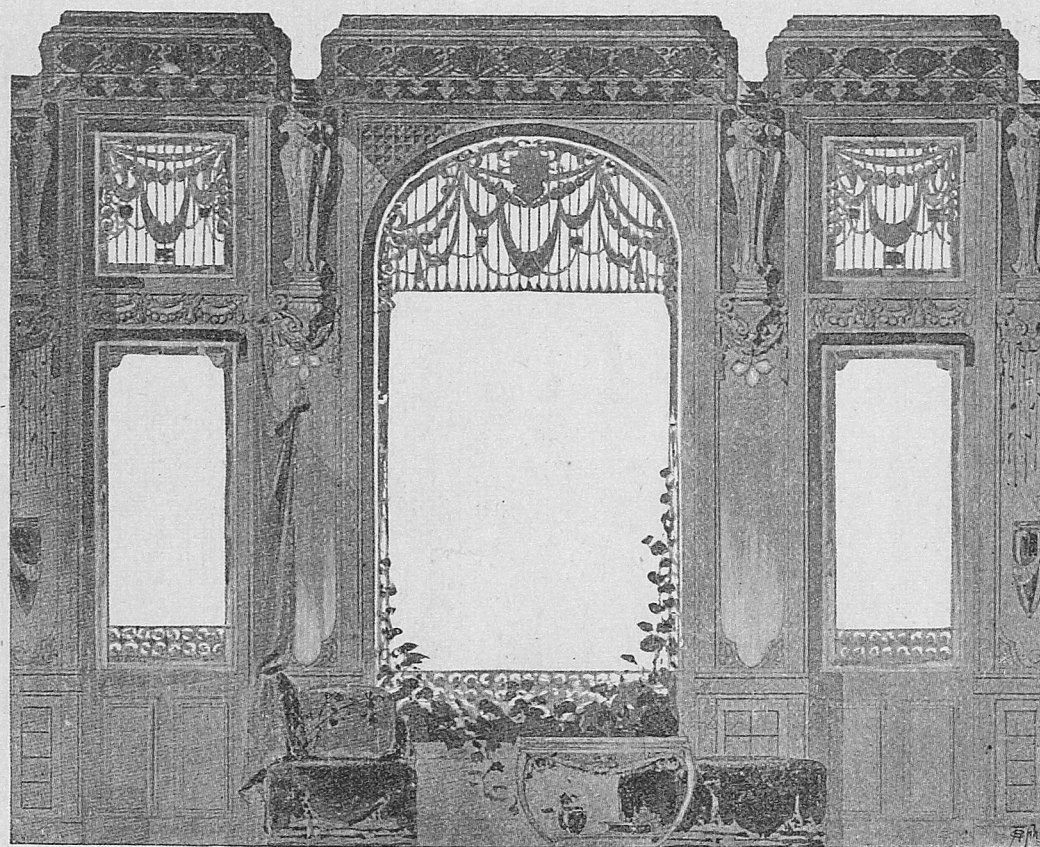


FIG. 23.—DECORATIVE CHART FOR END OF DRAWING-ROOM NEXT THE GARDEN.